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Africa and completely dependent upon it for its imported supplies because the import trade in the British domain is large and well-organized and has direct rail communication with Katanga. This condition must persist till Belgian trading interests are linked with those of Katanga by adequate transportation routes, and even then it may not be easy to overcome the preponderance in the business affairs of the province which British South Africa has attained. Among the author's many suggestions he proposes that British South Africa be taken as a model upon which to shape commercial and manufacturing development in Katanga.

The volume by Mr. Hock is a very instructive discussion of agricultural possibilities and prospects in which he treats of climate, soils, the prospects of raising paying crops, domestic animals, native labor, etc. He has no illusion as to the task before the pioneer farmer. Men of uncommon fiber are needed to turn that wilderness into gardens and fields. Still, many of the European grains, root crops, and garden products can be raised, also a considerable variety of the domestic animals, though the problem of protecting cattle and horses from the fatal bite of the tse-tse fly is still to be solved. This is the most systematic and thorough book that has yet been written on any regions in tropical Africa that are believed to offer opportunities for settlement by the white races.

History of the Basuto, Ancient and Modern. Compiled by D. Fred. Ellenberger, and written in English by J. C. Macgregor. xxii and 396 pp. Map, ill., index. Caxton Publishing Co., London, 1912. 7s. 6d. 9 x 6½.

To the extent that this narrative is a record of Basuto history the volume is extremely welcome. The author is intimately acquainted with the tribe, he has had the advantage of friendship upon the most familiar terms with aged chiefs who were willing to communicate to him of their stores of knowledge of the past. There results a narrative which will be found of great value as a check upon the Boer and British accounts of the conquest of South Africa.

The chapter upon the manners and customs of the Basuto is of a lower order, in fact disappointing. The author is not content to make a record of things seen. His observation appears to have been colored by prejudice and he suffers from one constant and very grave error of method. All customs which seemed to him out of harmony with the customs of modern Europe he has set in comparison with the non-European culture with which he was most familiar, namely that of the earlier Semitic record. Observation and this unconscious interpretation are so involved that this material must be used with extreme caution. This preconception is made most manifest in Ellenberger's research after the remote history of the Basuto, as in this statement: "But, and this is remarkable, the women who wear the national dress wear under it round the loins a girdle of twisted grass called the *thethana*, which word may be derived from the Hebrew *thanah*, the fig tree, of the leaves of which Adam and Eve made themselves aprons." He deals similarly with the Bushmen (Baroa). Disregarding the somewhat extensive literature which collates the relation of the Baroa with the prehistoric man of Europe and western Africa, he extends pages in proof of the derivation of this pygmy people from the Canaanites of Mount Hor who were dispossessed by Esau when he took possession of Mount Seir. However this may be, the volume appears under the auspices of the Basutoland government, therefore its modern chapters must be assumed to have value.

WILLIAM CHURCHILL.

In the Shadow of the Bush. By P. Amaury Talbot. xiv and 500 pp. Map, ill., index. W. Heinemann, London. George H. Doran Co., New York, 1912. \$5. 9 x 6½.

The "bush" in this book is in southeastern Nigeria with a small section of the Kameruns between the Cross River and the Gulf of Guinea. Here the author finds a people, the Ekoi, which have not come into contact with civilization and thus they retain their ancient habits. The writer transcribes many tales and traditions which illustrate nearly every phase of Ekoi life. The book is largely a record of social and religious customs. One of the remarkable features is the existence of secret societies which dominate the whole